June 30, 2010

Via Facsimile (202) 514-2836

Registration Unit
Counterespionage Section
National Security Division
U.S. Department of Justice
1st Floor – Public Office
1400 New York Avenue, NW- Suite 100
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Kurdistan Regional Government
Liaison Office – USA
Registration NO. 5783

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is a press release and attachements dated June 2 1, for the above-entitled entity.

Sincerely,

J Michael Slocum

JMS:ll
Enclosure

2010 JUN 30 PM 3:59

Invitation - Bedirxan Kurdish Cultural Festival

1 message

KRG-US <us@krg.org> **Mon, Jun 21, 2010 at 4:47 PM**
To: Intern <us@krg.org>

Dear Friends,

The Kurdistan Regional Government U.S. Liaison Office cordially invites you to Bedirxan's 7th Festival in Washington, D.C., "From Kurdistan to America: Establishing Cultural Bridges between Kurds and Americans." Attached, please find a detailed event program, featuring authentic Kurdish art, literature, food, dance and panel discussions. The festival will take place June 29 from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. and June 30 from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the House of Sweden. **Kindly RSVP to us@krg.org or call 202-821-1860 by Friday, June 25, indicating lunch and/or dinner attendance.**

Best regards,

Kurdistan Regional Government

Representation to the United States

1532 16th St., NW | Washington, DC 20036

(Tel) + 1 202 797 7575 | (Fax) + 1 202 821 1870 | www.krg.org

NOTIFICATION: The Kurdistan Regional Government Liaison Office – U.S.A. is registered as an agent of the Kurdistan Regional Government under 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*

BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL: Exempt from FOIA please contact KRG-US concerning any request to release any document.

2010 JUN 30 PM 3:59

2 attachments

Event Program Bedirxan's 7th festival -June 29-30.pdf
69K

7thBedirxanFestival.pdf
637K

بەدرخان
Bedirxan

Bedirxan Publishing House

Bedirxan's 7th Festival

"From Kurdistan to America: Establishing Cultural Bridges between Kurds & Americans"

June 29th and 30th 2010

House of Sweden
2900 K Street NW
Washington, DC – United States of America

2010 JUN 30 PM 3:59

Festival Program

Day 1
Tuesday
June 29th, 2010

12:00-2:00PM

- **Opening Ceremony with Lunch** *Catered by Levante's Restaurant*
 - Opening Remarks by Qubad Talabani, KRG Representative to the U.S.
 - Bedirxan March Song. Lyrics: Jamal Abdul, Music: Anwer Qeredaghi.
 - An introduction to the Bedirxan's by Ms. Sinem Khan Jeladet Ali-Bedirxan and Mr. Hamid Bedirxan
 - Documentary Film "Bedirxan & the Bedirxanis" Producer: Sattar M. Ameen
 - Documentary Film "Mohammed Mehdi Al-Jawahiri" Producer: Sattar M. Ameen
 - Documentary Film "This is Kurdistan" Produced and Directed by Hawraz Muhammad

Kurdish Art and Literature Exhibitions on display throughout the two-day festival

2:00-3:00 PM Panel 1: Language and Literature in Kurdistan

- **Moderator: Dr. Ismael Mohammedfahmi Saeed**
- **Dr. Azad Hamad Sharif** - The impact of Kurdish history on literature- drawing comparisons from Jean Sasson's *Love in a Torn Land*
 - Dr. Sharif is a senior lecturer of English and American literature at the University of Salahadin.
- **Jean Sasson** – Kurdistan and *Love in a Torn Land*
 - Jean Sasson is an American author who has written extensively about women in the Middle East.
- **Dr. Ismael Mohammedfahmi Qaradaghi** - The influence of American literature on Kurdish literature
 - Dr. Qaradaghi is an assistant professor of literature at the University of Salahadin.

- **Question and Answer Session**

Coffee / Tea Break

3:15-4:15PM Panel 2: Culture, Art, and Women

- **Moderator: Ms. Sinem Khan Jeladet Bedirxan**
- **Shahla Taheer Al-Haydari**
 - Shahla Haydari is a researcher in history from Baghdad.
- **Behar Mustafa (Sweden)**
 - Behar Mustafa is a sociologist from Sulaimani.
- **Mrs. Taman Shaker (Germany)**
- **Question and Answer Session**

Coffee / Tea Break

4:30-5:30PM Panel 3: The History of Kurds in Kirkuk

- **Moderator: Dr. Ismael Qaradaghi**
- **Dr. Kemal Mezher Ahmed** - Some Notes on Kirkuk and Adjacent Areas along with the screening of a documentary film, "Kirkuk"
 - Dr. Ahmed is a writer, translator, and a member of the Kurdish Academy of Language.
- **Dr. Cebar Qader (Holland)** - Kirkuk's Ethnic Mosaic
 - Dr. Qader is a consultant to the Prime Minister Dr. Barham Salih for higher education.
- **Dr. Ako Shwani** - History of the Kurdish People
 - Dr. Shwani is a professor at Sulaimani University.
- **Question and Answer Session**

Coffee / Tea Break

5:45-7:00PM

- **Screening of "Herman" a Kurdish feature film directed by Hassan Hussein, produced by the Ministry of Culture & Youth**
 - Two lovers, Herman and Adar, are separated by the Iraqi government's Anfal campaign that massacred and suppressed the Kurdish people. While Herman struggles to find Adar, she must deal with the realities of being unmarried and pregnant and the implications to her family's honor.

Day 2
Wednesday
June 30th, 2010

1:00-1:15PM

- **Introductory remarks by Najat Abdullah,** Director of Art and Culture
- **Traditional dancing by a Virginia based Kurdish dance group**

Coffee/ Tea Break

1:30-3:00PM Panel 4: Cultural Identity and the Kurdish People

- **Moderator: Dr. Azad Hamad Sharif.**
- **Atta Faeq** - The impact of other cultures on Kurdish culture
 - Mr. Faeq is a writer, intellectual and English language specialist.
- **Dr. Sarwar Abdullah (Germany)** - The trajectory of Kurdish cultural identity
 - Dr. Abdullah has a Ph.D. in Arabic literature and literary criticism.
- **Hashmi Ahmedzade (Britain)** - Four Narrations and an "Imagined Community"
 - Mr Ahmedzade is an instructor at Exeter University.
- **Dr. Narmin Ali** - Archaeology in Kurdistan
 - Dr. Ali is a professor of archaeology at the University of Salahadin specializing in the preservation of historical sites.
- **Question and Answer Session**

Coffee/ Tea Break

3:15-4:15PM Panel 5: Kurdish Film

- **Hawraz Mohammed Hama Rasheed** - The Kurds and Cinema
 - Mr. Rasheed is a director of short films and documentaries.
- **Kurdish Documentary Short Film Presentation.**
 - These short films are on various topics concerning Kurdistan and the Kurdish people.

Coffee/ Tea Break

4:30- 5:00 PM

- **"Mom" A Monodrama by Sarkaut Taro**
 - Mr. Taro has been acting and performing for over 30 years and has directed two films, "Qaraj" (1991) and " Zamely Garmyan" (1994).

5:00-6:00PM

- **"Winterland" A short film by Hisham Zamani**

 The director humorously depicts the story of Renas, a Kurdish refugee who lives in a remote area in Northern Norway. He has everything he wants, but deeply misses a woman.

6:00-7:00 PM Dinner *Catered by Levante's Restaurant*

7:00-9:00 PM Closing Ceremony and Reception

- Remarks by Mr. Hameed Bedirxan, Director General of Bedirxan Publishing House
- Poetry Recitation by Qubadi Jali Zade, Dilshad Abdullah and a Sami Hadi poem read by Dr. Ismael Qaradaghi
- Distribution of the Bedirxan Festival Award.
- Closing Remarks by Qubad Talabani

Live Music Performance by a Kurdish youth band

Bedirxan Publishing House in Profile:

The Bedirxan family was the first to establish a Kurdish newspaper, called "Kurdistan," published in the Latin alphabet. The paper was headquartered in Cairo, Egypt. The Bedirxan Publishing House was established in Sulaimani in 2000 and was the first independent publishing house founded after the Kurdish uprising of 1991.

- 1st Bedirxan Festival on 22nd April, 2004 in Sulaimani - Iraq.
- 2nd Bedirxan Festival on 22nd April, 2005 in Dohuk - Iraq.
- 3rd Bedirxan Festival on 22nd April, 2006 in Erbil - Iraq.
- 4th Bedirxan Festival on 22nd April, 2007 in Berlin - Germany.
- 5th Bedirxan Festival on 22nd April, 2008 in Cairo - Egypt.
- 6th Bedirxan Festival on 19th -20th Oct., 2009 in Athens - Greece.
- Held 2 cultural events in Iran, 3 in Germany, 2 in Sweden, 1 in London (The Kurds in 21st Century) and Frankfurt Book Fair from 2006 to the present.
- Published more than (160) Books in an array of subjects.
- Published The Encyclopedia of Erbil (10 Volumes) (2010).
- Published more than 142 issues of the Bedirxan Bi-weekly.

Najat Abdullah
Director for Art and Culture
Kurdistan Regional Government – USA



BEDIRXAN'S 7TH
FESTIVAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

FROM KURDISTAN TO AMERICA

JUNE 29, 2010 12-7PM
JUNE 30, 2010 1-9PM

ESTABLISHING CULTURAL BRIDGES BETWEEN KURDS & AMERICANS

HOUSE OF SWEDEN
2900 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20007
(202) 536-1500
HOUSEOFSWEDEN.COM/EN